

Lesson Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Lesson ID: 81730-53665

Title: NATIONAL AND THEATER INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT

Operation/Exercise Name: SHARP EDGE

Observed: 05 Aug 1990

Originator: BLT 2/4

POC: Commercial: DSN:

5. (U) OBSERVATION:

One problem area in a crisis situation is the potential flood of intelligence information to the using units. Compounding this problem is the multitude of agencies which provide like information simultaneously. The result may be an influx of information that clouds an already nebulous situation.

6. (U) DISCUSSION:

Once committed to the Liberian contingency, national and theater assets began funneling volumes of information pertaining to the political and military situation to the Mediterranean Amphibious Readiness Group (MARG). The incoming intelligence data lacked a single source, cohesive and analytical effort. There was seemingly little effort at any level to refine the information into a single usable product. Most importantly, no agency analyzed the intelligence data to produce a daily synopsis of events and projections for future events to the tactical commander.

7. (U) LESSON LEARNED:

A single agency must be established to provide detailed analysis of the steady flow of intelligence data.

8. (U) RECOMMENDED ACTION:

In a contingency operation intelligence agencies should form a crisis support cell to "work" the raw information received and put it into systematic order to include an analysis of that information. This processed information should be delivered to the tactical commander where it would be studied and disseminated.

9. (U) COMMENTS:

None.